REMARKS

Claims 1-5 and 10-11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Kishida et al. (U.S. Publication No. 2003/0156247). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection because the cited reference fails to disclose (or suggest) measuring a thickness of a cell or a height of a pillar spacer formed on one of the pair of substrates before and/or after injecting the liquid crystal, and controlling the parameter based on the measured thickness of the cell or the measured height of the pillar spacer.

Kishida discloses a liquid crystal display device having a liquid crystal layer. The liquid crystal layer includes a polymerizable component capable of being polymerized by light and is sealed between two substrates arranged opposing one another. The polymerizable component is polymerized by irradiation of light and there is predetermined light irradiation condition while voltage is applied to the liquid crystal layer and under a predetermined voltage application condition. However, Kishida is silent regarding a step of measuring a thickness of a cell or a height of pillar spacer formed on one of the pair of substrates before and/or after injecting the liquid crystal. Kishida is also silent regarding controlling a voltage, a temperature, a luminance, or the irradiation time as a parameter under feedback of a measured thickness of a cell or a measured height of a pillar spacer.

In contrast, claim 1 calls for a method of producing a liquid crystal display device that includes the steps of filling liquid crystal between a pair of substrates, and polymerizing a polymerizable component by irradiating a liquid crystal with light.

Additionally, a step of measuring a thickness of a cell or a height of a pillar spacer formed on one of the pair of substrates before and/or after injecting the liquid crystal occurs. A voltage, temperature, luminance, or irradiation time is also controlled as a parameter. The parameter is controlled under feedback of a thickness of a cell or a height of a pillar spacer formed on one of the pair of substrates before and/or after injecting a liquid crystal.

As further discussed in Applicants' specification on page 13, line 29 to page 14, line 3, a liquid crystal composition containing a photopolymerizable component is injected in a blank cell to produce a liquid crystal panel. The liquid crystal panel as produced is then measured for a thickness of the cell. (See Applicants' specification page 14, lines 7-8).

Kishida fails to disclose (or suggest) a step of measuring a thickness of a cell or a height of a pillar spacer. Kishida also fails to disclose (or suggest) controlling a parameter under feedback of the measured thickness of the cell or the measured height of the pillar spacer. For these reasons, withdrawal of the §102(e) rejection of claims 1-5 and 10-11 is respectfully requested.

For all of the foregoing reasons, Applicants submit that this Application is in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney if an interview would expedite prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

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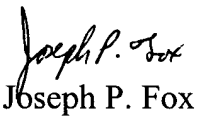
By 
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